

# APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR STORING AND PROCESSING HEADER INFORMATION IN A NETWORK SWITCH

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A network switch configured for switching data packets across multiple ports uses an internal memory to store frame headers for processing by decision making logic. The internal memory stores frame headers in a queue configured to store a number of the frame headers for each of the receive ports. A scheduler is included for facilitating the transfer the data from the queues to the decision making logic according to a predetermined priority. The scheduler is also able allocate the time slots in accordance with data traffic at the corresponding receive ports to maximize data throughput.